

Amendment After Allowance under 37 CFR 1.312

Date filed May 25, 2006

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/693,693

REMARKS

This Amendment presents canceled claims 4 and 5 as new claims 7 and 8 for rejoinder because they are dependent on allowed claim 1 and are therefore allowable.

On April 11, 2006 in a telephone conversation with the Examiner, we requested and the Examiner agreed to rejoin claims 4 and 5 because they were dependent from allowed claim 1. However, because the claims were previously canceled and were not indicated as rejoined in the Notice of Allowance, this Amendment after Allowance is respectfully submitted.

On April 21, 2006, a Notice of Allowance was mailed for the above-captioned patent application. It is the applicants position that such amendments to the claims, pursuant to MPEP §714.16: (1) are needed for proper disclosure or protection of the applicants invention, (2) require no substantial amount of additional work on the part of the Patent Office, and consistent with MPEP 821.04(a), new claims 7 and 8 require all the limitations of allowed claim 1.

It is respectfully requested that new claims 7 and 8 be rejoined and allowed with this application because they are of the same invention.

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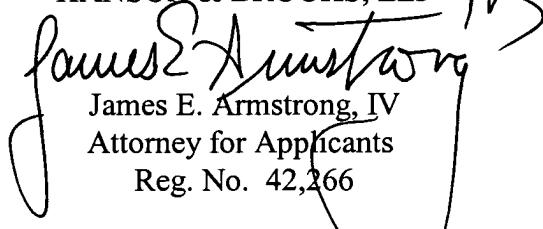
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If for any reason, the Examiner has any questions, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact, by telephone, the applicants undersigned attorney at the indicated telephone number to arrange for a telephone conference in order to help expedite the disposition of this application.

In the event this paper is not timely filed, the applicants hereby petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fee for this extension may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 01-2340, along with any other additional fees which may be required with respect to this paper.

Respectfully submitted,

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